

General Assembly

Governor's Bill No. 5034

February Session, 2012

LCO No. 543

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:

REP. DONOVAN, 84th Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88th Dist.

SEN. WILLIAMS, 29th Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING RETIREMENT PROVISIONS RELATING TO JUDGES, FAMILY SUPPORT MAGISTRATES AND COMPENSATION COMMISSIONERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 51-49a of the 2012 supplement to the general
- 2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
- 3 (Effective from passage):
- 4 (a) The right to a retirement salary, in accordance with the
- 5 provisions of this section, of any judge, family support magistrate or
- 6 compensation commissioner who is not eligible to retire under the
- 7 provisions of section 51-50a, which judge, family support magistrate or
- 8 <u>compensation</u> commissioner has completed ten years of service as
- 9 such, shall be vested and nonforfeitable.
- 10 (b) Any such judge or compensation commissioner who first
- 11 commenced service as a judge or compensation commissioner prior to

- 12 January 1, 1981, and who resigns (1) [prior to September 2, 2011] on or 13 before September 1, 2011, (2) prior to becoming eligible to retire under 14 section 51-50a, and (3) after at least ten years of service, shall receive, at 15 such time as he would have been eligible to so retire if he had 16 continued in such service, as retirement salary, annually, fifty per cent 17 of the retirement salary he would have received had he served until he 18 was so eligible, plus ten per cent of such retirement salary for each 19 year of service beyond ten years but for not more than five years of 20 additional service.
- 21 (c) Any such judge, family support magistrate or compensation 22 commissioner who first commenced service as a judge, family support 23 magistrate or compensation commissioner on or after January 1, 1981, 24 and who resigns (1) [prior to September 2, 2011] on or before 25 <u>September 1, 2011</u>, (2) prior to becoming eligible to retire under section 26 51-50a, and (3) after at least ten years of service, shall receive, at such 27 time as he would have been eligible to so retire if he had continued in 28 such service, annually, an amount equal to the fraction of the 29 retirement salary he would have received had he served until he was 30 so eligible which corresponds to the ratio which the number of years of 31 his completed service bears to the number of years of service which 32 would have been completed at age sixty-five or twenty years, 33 whichever is less.
 - (d) Any such judge or compensation commissioner who first commenced service as a judge or compensation commissioner prior to January 1, 1981, and who resigns (1) on or after September 2, 2011, and prior to July 1, 2022, (2) prior to becoming eligible to retire under section 51-50a, and (3) after at least ten years of service, shall receive, at such time as he would have been eligible to so retire, annually, an amount equal to the fraction of the retirement salary he would have received had he been eligible to retire on the date of his resignation and shall begin collecting such retirement salary not earlier than at sixty-two years of age.

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

- (e) Any such judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner who first commenced service as a judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner on or after January 1, 1981, and prior to July 1, 2011, and who resigns (1) on or after September 2, 2011, and prior to July 1, 2022, (2) prior to becoming eligible to retire under section 51-50a, and (3) after at least ten years of service, shall receive, at such time as he would have been eligible to so retire, annually, an amount equal to the fraction of the retirement salary he would have received had he been eligible to retire on the date of his resignation and shall begin collecting such retirement salary not earlier than at sixty-five years of age.
- [(f) In determining the amount of retirement payments to be made pursuant to subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of this section, longevity payments which would have been made if the judge, family support magistrate or commissioner had continued to serve as a judge, family support magistrate or commissioner from the date of resignation with a vested right to a retirement salary shall not be included in the computation.]
- [(g)] (f) Any such judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner who first commenced service as a judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner on or after July 1, 2011, and who resigns prior to becoming eligible to retire under section 51-50a and after at least ten years of service, shall receive, at such time as he would have been eligible to so retire, annually, an amount equal to the fraction of the retirement salary he would have received had he been eligible to retire on the date of his resignation and shall begin collecting such retirement salary not earlier than at sixty-five years of age.
- (g) In determining the amount of retirement payments to be made pursuant to subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of this section, longevity payments which would have been made if the judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner had continued to serve as a

- 76 judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner from
- 77 the date of resignation with a vested right to a retirement salary shall
- 78 not be included in the computation.
- Sec. 2. Section 51-49b of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 82 (a) On January 1, 1982, and January first of each subsequent year, 83 each judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner 84 who first commenced service as a judge, family support magistrate or 85 compensation commissioner on or after January 1, 1981, and retired on 86 or before September 2, 2011, shall be entitled, in addition to the 87 retirement salary to which such judge, family support magistrate or 88 commissioner was entitled under the provisions of section 51-49a, as 89 amended by this act, 51-50 or 51-50a, as of the December thirty-first 90 immediately preceding, to an additional percentage which reflects the 91 increase, if any, in the National Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage 92 Earners and Clerical Workers for the previous twelve-month period, 93 provided such cost of living allowance shall not exceed three per cent. 94 Such cost of living allowance shall be computed on the basis of the 95 combined retirement salary and cost of living allowances, if any, to 96 which such judge, family support magistrate or compensation 97 commissioner was entitled as of the December thirty-first immediately 98 preceding.
 - (b) On January 1, 2012, and January first of each subsequent year, each judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner who was in service as a judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner on or after [September 1, 2011, and retired on or before the December thirty-first immediately preceding, shall be entitled, in addition to the retirement salary to which such judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner was entitled under the provisions of section 51-49a, 51-50 or 51-50a, as of the December thirty-first immediately preceding, to an additional

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

- Sec. 3. Section 51-49c of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 126 (a) On January 1, 1982, and January first of each subsequent year 127 until January 1, 2011, each surviving spouse of a deceased judge, 128 family support magistrate or of a compensation commissioner who 129 first commenced service as a judge, family support magistrate or 130 compensation commissioner on or after January 1, 1981, receiving an 131 allowance under the provisions of section 51-51, shall be entitled to an 132 additional cost of living allowance equal to the percentage which 133 reflects the increase, if any, in the National Consumer Price Index for 134 Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for the previous twelve-135 month period, provided such cost of living increase shall not exceed 136 three per cent. Such cost of living allowance shall be computed on the 137 basis of the combined retirement allowance and cost of living 138 allowance, if any, to which such surviving spouse was entitled as of 139 the December thirty-first immediately preceding.

140 (b) On January 1, 2012, and January first of each subsequent year, 141 each surviving spouse of a deceased judge, family support magistrate 142 or compensation commissioner who [first commenced service as a 143 judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner on or 144 after January 1, 1981, receiving an allowance under the provisions of 145 section 51-51, shall be entitled to an additional cost of living allowance 146 equal to the percentage which reflects the increase, if any, in the 147 National Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical 148 Workers for the previous twelve-month period, provided such cost of 149 living increase shall not exceed two per cent. Such cost of living 150 allowance shall be computed on the basis of the combined retirement 151 allowance and cost of living allowance, if any, to which such surviving 152 spouse was entitled as of the December thirty-first immediately 153 preceding was in service as a judge, family support magistrate or 154 compensation commissioner on or after September 2, 2011, shall 155 receive, in addition to the retirement salary that to which such judge, 156 family support magistrate or compensation commissioner was entitled 157 under the provisions of section 51-49a, as amended by this act, 51-50 or 158 51-50a, as of the December thirty-first immediately preceding, a cost of 159 living allowance equivalent to the cost of living allowance applied to 160 the retirement salary of members of the state employee retirement system who retired on or after October 1, 2011, for the same period. 161

Sec. 4. Section 51-49f of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of judges who first commenced service as judges prior to January 1, 1981, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses under subsection (a) of section 51-51, "salary for the office" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The annual salary payable pursuant to subsection (a) of section 51-47, as such salary may change from time to time; and for judges to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each instance under subsection (d) of section 51-

165

166

167

168

169

170

171

47, (1) one and one-half per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (2) three per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (3) four and one-half per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, and (4) six per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service.

(b) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of judges who first commenced service as judges on or after January 1, 1981, and prior to July 1, 2011, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses, under subsection (b) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The annual salary payable at the time of retirement or death, fixed in accordance with subsection (a) of section 51-47; and for judges to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each case under subsection (d) of section 51-47, (1) one and one-half per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (2) three per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such

173

174

175

176

177

178

179

180

181

182

183

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

service, (3) four and one-half per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, and (4) six per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service.

(c) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of judges who first commenced service as judges on or after July 1, 2011, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses, under subsection (b) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The average annual salary for the five years next preceding his or her retirement payable at the time of retirement or death, fixed in accordance with subsection (a) of section 51-47; and for judges to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each case under subsection (d) of section 51-47, (1) one and one-half per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (2) three per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (3) four and one-half per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, and (4) six per cent of the annual salary the judge was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a judge or other state service or service as an elected official of the state

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

215

216

217

218

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

- or any combination of such service.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, on or after September 2, 2011, the retirement salary of such judge [, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner] shall not exceed the limits of Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time.
- Sec. 5. Section 51-49g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of compensation commissioners who first commenced service compensation commissioners in a term commencing prior to January 1, 1981, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses under subsection (a) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The annual salary payable pursuant to subsection (a) of section 31-277, as such salary may change from time to time; and for compensation commissioners to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each instance under subsection (b) of section 31-277, (1) one and one-half per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a compensation commissioner, (2) three per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a compensation commissioner, (3) four and one-half per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a compensation commissioner, and (4) six per cent of annual salary, as such salary may change from time to time, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a compensation commissioner.
- 272 (b) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

compensation commissioners who first commenced service as compensation commissioners in a term commencing on or after January 1, 1981, and prior to July 1, 2011, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses, under subsection (b) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The annual salary payable at the time of retirement or death, fixed in accordance with subsection (a) of section 31-277; and for compensation commissioners to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each case under subsection (b) of section 31-277, (1) one and one-half per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a compensation commissioner, (2) three per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a compensation commissioner, (3) four and one-half per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a compensation commissioner and (4) six per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a compensation commissioner.

(c) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of compensation commissioners who first commenced service as compensation commissioners on or after July 1, 2011, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses, under subsection (b) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The average annual salary for the five years next preceding his or her retirement payable at the time of retirement or death, fixed in accordance with subsection (a) of section 51-47; and for compensation commissioners to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each case under subsection (d) of

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

304

305

section 51-47, (1) one and one-half per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a compensation commissioner or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (2) three per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a compensation commissioner or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (3) four and one-half per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a compensation commissioner or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, and (4) six per cent of the annual salary the compensation commissioner was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a compensation commissioner or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service.

- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, on or after September 2, 2011, the retirement salary of such compensation commissioner shall not exceed the limits of Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time.
- Sec. 6. Section 51-49i of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 336 (a) For any judge, family support magistrate or compensation 337 commissioner retiring on or after July 1, 2022, the right to a retirement 338 salary in accordance with the provisions of this section shall vest and

307

308

309

310

311 312

313

314

315 316

317

318

319

320

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330

331

- (b) Any judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner who has been refunded contributions from the State Employees Retirement Fund for any prior period of state service may receive credit for such service upon repayment of such refunded contributions with interest thereon at the rate of five per cent per year from the date of refund to the date of payment. The amount of such payment shall be transferred to the judges, family support magistrates and compensation commissioners retirement system. A judge, family support magistrate or commissioner may elect to retire at any time thereafter.
- [(c) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any judge who has served for at least sixteen years as a judge and was nominated by the Governor for a subsequent term but was not reappointed and who has attained sixty-three years of age shall be eligible to receive a retirement salary effective upon the expiration of his term as a judge.]
- Sec. 7. Section 46b-233a of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 370 (a) Each family support magistrate who had elected under the

371 provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (i) of section 46b-231 shall, 372 for retirement purposes, be entitled to credit for any or all the prior 373 years of service accrued by him on June 22, 1992, while serving in the 374 office of family support magistrate, provided such magistrate shall pay 375 to the Comptroller five per cent of the salary for his office for each 376 prior year of service he claims for retirement credit. Each such 377 magistrate shall be entitled to have his retirement contributions to the 378 state employees retirement system under chapter 66 credited toward 379 the payment due for the prior year or years of service he claims for 380 retirement credit under this section.

(b) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of family support magistrates who first commenced services prior to July 1, 2011, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses under subsection (b) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The average annual salary for the five years next preceding his or her retirement payable at the time of retirement or death, fixed in accordance with subsection (h) of section 46b-231; and for family support magistrates to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each case under section 51-51 (1) one and one-half per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a family support magistrate, (2) three per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a family support magistrate, (3) four and one-half per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a family support magistrate, and (4) six per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a family support magistrate.

381

382

383

384

385

386

387

388

389

390

391

392

393

394

395

396

397

398

399

400

401

402

(c) For purposes of determining both the retirement salary of family support magistrates who first commenced service as family support magistrates on or after July 1, 2011, and the allowance payable to their surviving spouses, under subsection (b) of section 51-51, "salary" shall be composed of the total of the following amounts: The average annual salary for the five years next preceding his or her retirement payable at the time of retirement or death, fixed in accordance with subsection (a) of section 51-47; and for family support magistrates to whom a longevity payment has been made or is due and payable, in each case under subsection (d) of section 51-47, (1) one and one-half per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed ten or more but less than fifteen years of service as a family support magistrate or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (2) three per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed fifteen or more but less than twenty years of service as a family support magistrate or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, (3) four and one-half per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty or more but less than twenty-five years of service as a family support magistrate or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service, and (4) six per cent of the annual salary the family support magistrate was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for those who have completed twenty-five or more years of service as a family support magistrate or other state service or service as an elected official of the state or any combination of such service.

[(c)] (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, on or after September 2, 2011, the retirement salary of such [judge,] family support magistrate [or compensation commissioner] shall not exceed the limits of Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States,

404 405

406

407

408

409 410

411

412 413

414

415

416

417

418

419

420

421

422 423

424

425

426

427

428

429

430 431

432

433 434

435

as amended from time to time.

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

445

446

447

448

449

450

451

452

453

454

Sec. 8. (NEW) (Effective from passage) On or before July 1, 2013, judges who are in service on the effective date of this section may make a one-time irrevocable election to begin paying the actuarial pension cost of maintaining the normal retirement eligibility existing in the present plan on the effective date of this section, but which is scheduled to change effective July 1, 2022. The cost of making such an election shall be established by the plan's actuaries and such cost shall be communicated to judges by the Retirement Division of the Office of the Comptroller. The irrevocable election shall be made on a form prescribed by the State Employees Retirement Commission and shall indicate the judge's election to participate or not participate. In the event a judge fails to make an election on or before July 1, 2013, he or she shall not be eligible to participate. In the event a judge makes a successful claim to the State Employees Retirement Commission of agency error, such judge shall make payments in accordance with the state's usual practice.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	51-49a
Sec. 2	from passage	51-49b
Sec. 3	from passage	51-49c
Sec. 4	from passage	51-49f
Sec. 5	from passage	51-49g
Sec. 6	from passage	51-49i
Sec. 7	from passage	46b-233a
Sec. 8	from passage	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]